

NATIONAL FISHING FISHERY
Office of the Assistant Director for
Division of Foreign Fisheries

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Note: Items marked UNCLASSIFIED
may be used without restriction.

January 7, 1971

FOREIGN FISHERIES BRIEFS 71-4

Latin America, Africa, West Europe & Canada, Oceanic, Near and Mid-East (D. Windley):

* ~~(Confidential)~~ BAHAMAS REJECTS U.S. CLAIM TO TRADITIONAL RIGHTS TO FISH WITHIN BAHAMIAN 12 MILE FISHERIES ZONE, WILL DEVELOP FISHERY FOR BAHAMIANS. In Dec. 30 conversation with U.S. Consul General in Nassau, Bahamian Prime Minister said he hoped U.S. would understand, because U.S. data did not substantiate U.S. claim, Bahamas small country which needed revenue from lobsters, etc. P.M. said that while rejecting U.S. claim, he did not wish to slam door on U.S., and in interest of U.S.-Bahamian friendship would consider other U.S. proposals. In response to Consul's query as to whether P.M. had licensing arrangement in mind, P.M. said he had no specific proposals to discuss, but U.S. was free to propose what it wished. Consul, in reporting discussion to Washington, commented that probably best U.S. can do now is ask for continuance of U.S. fishing in important areas while negotiations continue, and hope that revenues plus side benefits from research, training, etc., would incline Bahamians to continue arrangement while clearing way for cooperation in developing a basis for U.S. investment in Bahamian fishing industry. Hard line now by U.S. against Bahamian position could result in wild Bahamian claim to lobster as a creature of the shelf, plus delimitation of Bahamian territorial sea on archipelago theory (thus restricting U.S. Naval and air access to Caribbean), precipitating U.S.-Bahamian confrontation disadvantageous to both sides. NMFS, Dept. of State preparing response. (U.S. Consul General, Nassau, Jan. 5) (See Briefs 70-13) (End Confidential)

(Limited Official Use) ECUADOR'S MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES RESIGNS, Dec. 31, resignation accepted Jan. 1. Minister, Simon Bustamante Cardenas, did not state reasons; however, "reliable sources" told U.S. Embassy, Quito, that Bustamante quarrelled violently with Ecuador's Pres. Velasco over acquisition of equipment for fishing industry. Bustamante reportedly wanted equipment purchased on basis of public bid, Velasco was already making his own arrangements for purchase and resisted Bustamante's plans. New minister appointed Jan. 4 is Daniel Leon Borja, ex-mayor of Riobamba (in interior) and head of Ecuadorean National Electrification Institute when chosen as minister, (U.S. Embassy, Quito, Jan. 4) (End Limited Official Use)

E. Europe, U.S.S.R., both Chinas, Japan, and SE. Asia (M. Kravanja & A. Obolensky):

SOVIET DEPUTY FISHERIES MINISTER SUKHORUCHENKO DIES, in Moscow, Dec. 15 "after prolonged and serious illness." He was 62. In brief obituary, Sukhoruchenko's career highlighted as Deputy Minister of Fishing Industry of U.S.S.R. in 1946, Minister of Fishing Industry of R.S.F.S.R. (Russian Federative Republic, largest of Soviet Federative Republics) in 1956, Deputy Fisheries Minister of U.S.S.R. in 1964. (Vodnyi Transport, Dec. 17, 1970.) Sukhoruchenko was in charge of "Pacific affairs" at Fisheries Ministry, also of processing, foreign sales, whaling, supplies, fishery production and technology. He was well known in U.S. as chief Soviet negotiator for N.E. Pacific fishery agreements. Last visit to U.S. Jan. 1969 as head of Soviet delegation for N.E. Pacific negotiations. (Unclassified)

Distribution: Dir., Assts., Regs., Int. Aff., PPB, Attache, Sp. Asst., State, SA, CG, NR, MSC, CIA.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~